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MEMORANDUMS

MADE IN A

TOUR TO THE EASTERN STATES

IN THE YEAR 1797.

not catalogued
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BY

ROBERT GILMOR,

A Gentleman of Baltimore.

WITH VIEWS FROM PEN-SKETCHES BY THE AUTHOR.

PRINTED FROM A MANUSCRIPT IN THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

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MEMORANDUMS

MADE IN

A TOUR TO THE EASTERN STATES.

BY ROBERT GILMOR.

ROBERT GILMOR, of Baltimore, whose entertaining notes of a journey through the Middle and Eastern States in 1797 are printed below, was a gentleman of large fortune, and the possessor of a fine library, a gallery of paintings and sculpture, and cabinets of minerals and coins, all of which were scattered at his death. He was, also, the owner of a collection of autographs, largely historical in character, the basis of which was an extensive correspondence of his father, a prosperous merchant in Baltimore before and during the Revolution; this subsequently became part of the famous Dreer collection of Philadelphia. Dr. Samuel Gilman, in his "Contributions to literature," briefly describes it in his chapter on the Tefft collection.

Mr. Gilmor travelled widely, and was famous for his hospitality. Jared Sparks, when living in Baltimore, was on terms of intimacy with him, there being a mutual interest in historical matters. To the Maryland Historical Society he gave valuable manuscripts, once owned by Mr. Ridout, the secretary of Governor Sharpe, and now known as the "Gilmor Maryland papers."

He died in November, 1848, at the age of seventy-four, and was therefore only about twenty-three years old at the time of writing these "Memorandums." It was Mr. Gilmor's habit to keep journals of his various tours, and these are now, mostly, in the keeping of his family. The cuts, accompanying the text, are reproduced from the author's pen-drawings. They for the most part need no explanation, and, though only slight sketches, are no doubt fairly accurate. The first cut represents Lansdown, once the country seat of the Hon. William Bingham, and now a part of Fairmount Park, Philadelphia. It was the meeting place of many notables of the day, conspicuous among them being the duke of Orleans, afterwards Louis Philippe of France, mentioned by Mr. Gilmor below. The other plates represent familiar places.

A young English gentleman, Mr. Sherlock, who had made the tour of the Western part of Virginia, Maryland & Pennsylvania, with me in the months of August & September last, proposed that we should visit the Eastern States during the warm season this year. Accordingly on the 24th July 1797 we took our seats in the North Point stage, and left Baltimore with the pleasing expectation of returning home to it, better satisfied and more contented.

After a fine ride of about 15 miles we arrived at North Point where the Packet boat which was to carry us across the bay was waiting for us. — We soon got under way, arrived at Mr. Wilmers in about 2½ hours. — The day was delightful the wind as fair as possible, and the views up & down the bay were delightful. — From the bay side to Chestertown is 12 miles, and we got into town early in the Evening, time enough to wait upon Mr. Tilghman, a friend of my fathers, who received us politely and gave us some refreshments —

In the morning we left this place before day, — our company consisted of Doctor Smith of Philad[a] an old literary character, respectable for his learning and age, & a young woman who had lived in Philad. & was then on a visit to her friend; between her and the parson we had fine amusement; — She was rather loose in her manner & tolerably witty; he had no objection to reply to her sallies and said several excellent things — At Warwick we lost her, and she seemed to regret that she could not continue with us; she lingered about the stage when we drove off and remained in the Tavern porch till we could see her no longer. —

The road lay through one of the finest wheat countries in the world; immense fields were on each side, and the country cultivated in a different manner from what I had ever been accustomed to. — It was that part of the Peninsula formed by the Deleware and Chesapeake bays, which supplies such vast quantities of fine wheat to the markets of Philad[a] & Baltimore

At Wilmington the Capital of Deleware we stopped to dine, and from thence to Philad the ride was pleasant & beautiful. The windings of the Deleware formed a very pleasing object for almost 25 miles, and the number of small handsome villages through which our road lay contributed not a little to embellish the changing scene.

At Philadelphia I was not a stranger; I had visited it with my father in the spring of 1793 & last winter went up expressly in company with Mr

Strutt to be present at the last birthday & Ball of our esteemed President Washington. Of course I had every chance for passing a few agreable days, and for the short time I spent there I was not wrong in my expectations. —

After breakfast I waited upon the Viscount de Noailles who seemed happy to see me; he conversed with me very kindly and communicated a great deal of information on subjects in which we were mutually interested. In the evening he drove me in his gig out to Lansdown, Mr. Binghams delightful country residence which he lately purchased from the last of the family of the old proprietor of Pennsylvania, M^r^ Penn. It is a most superb place, and supposed to be the best country house in America. — It commands a noble view of the Schuylkill & the seats in the neighbourhood, & at a distance the steeples of some of the churches in Philad^a^. I had the pleasure of seeing at Lansdown the two eldest daughters of the celebrated Count de Grasse, for whom I had brought letters from a french lady in Baltimore. They pleased me very much by their amiable and agreable manners, perfectly ladies in their demeanor & conversation, yet extremely cheerful & lively.

The Miss Binghams I found very much improved since I last saw them, both in their persons & accomplishments. — They are certainly very fine girls: French is almost as natural a language to them as their mother tongue. — They speak Italian also, and converse well on any subject. — Yet these young ladies are mere children in point of years, and have only improved their natural talents, & acquired information from the extensive and variety of acquaintance they are obliged to make from their peculiar situation in life aided by the stimulus of example which the talents of conspicuous characters daily set before them.

To enable Mr. Sherlock & myself to visit Lansdown, The viscount as I mentioned took me in his gig and gave Mr. S. his horse. — Happening to stop at his door on our ride some letters arrived, among which was one for a French lady in the neighborhood, which the viscount was to deliver immediately. While he was reading these letters Mr. S. rode gently on supposing we would follow instantly, but from the circumstance I mention Mons. de Noailles was obliged to turned down a street for the purpose of delivering his letter and in that time Mr. S. had missed us, and turned into a wrong street expecting to find us; from these manœuvres we lost him and never met dur-

ing the evening: — we went to Lansdown and he rode across 2 ferrys without finding the road. — However the next day Mr. Bingham had engaged us to dine with him, which made up for his disappointment. —

In the morning of the 27th we rode out to breakfast at Mr Nichlin's and from thence went to Germantown to see Stewart's painting of the late President. — We should have disappointed in this had not I taken care to get a letter of introduction to him from General de Noailles who was intimate with him & for whom Stewart entertained a great respect. — His wife met us at the door and said Mr S. was out: — I requested she would send the note I had to him wherever he was; I told her I should stay but a few days in Philada & should be very much disappointed if I could not see Mr. Stewart's performance. She at length invited us into the parlour and left the room; in a few minutes Stewart came in, received us in the most welcome manner, offered us refreshments and conducting us to his painting room which he had fitted up in his stable. — The Picture he had there of the President was the first copy he had made of the celebrated full length which he had painted for Mrs Bingham intended as a present to the Marquis of Lansdown. — It was supposed one of the finest portraits that ever was painted. This copy was for Mr Binghams own use and from which Stewart told us he had engaged to finish copies to amount of 70 or 80,000 Drs at the rate of 600 Drs a copy. This circumstance is an unique in the history of painting, that the portrait of one man should be sought after in such a degree as to be copied by the original artist such a number of times and for such an amount. — There were a number of other portraits unfinished of distinguished characters, which were very excellent. — As a portrait painter Stewart is not excelled I believe by any man living. — He has the appearance of a man who is attached to drinking, as his face is bloated & red. He possesses a good deal of humour & related several very interesting anecdotes respecting the Historical painter Trumbul and the Player Kemble. On leaving him he desired we would on our return pay him another visit and view the progress he was making in his copies, for which purpose he had retired from the busy interruptions he was liable to in Philada to the calm and pleasant retreat of Germantown.

On the subject of Stewart I dare say I am too prolix; but a strong attachment to the Arts, and some little knowledge on the subject, has led me into what I should otherwise have considered obtrusive remarks. — My fondness for the subject may perhaps prove dangerous, but as long as I can

restrain it with (in) the bounds of prudence & reason, I am convinced it will prove one of the greatest sources of pleasure, amusement and relaxation from the serious concerns of life. —

We returned to town in time to dress for dinner & the carriage we hired for the day carried us out to Lansdown where we dined with Mr Bingham's family, some of Mrs B's relations & several Spaniards who went out with the Viscount de N——. The day was passed in a pleasant, agreable manner. The company got to exercises of strength & activity in which we were joined by the young ladies who proved that tho' accomplishments of a masculine nature were commonly appropriated to the gentlemen yet they were not incompatible with female delicacy & indulgence when conducted in a suitable manner.

The morning following I waited on the Duke of Orleans and his brothers, who had just returned from their jaunt to the western and northern part of America. They had spent about a couple of months in their tour, and were quite fatigued with the Hardships they had endured — It was really a curious circumstance for reflection, that three princes, nephews to the first Monarch upon earth, should be driven to the necessity of seeking an asylum in a foreign country — which was denied them in their own; that these young men should be reduced to swim rivers in the wildernesses of America; sleep whole nights upon the earth without any canopy but the heavens, and economise their expenses, when their father had been the richest subject in the universe, —are thoughts that strike upon the mind with astonishing force and leave lasting impressions of the instability of human greatness and the uncertainty of the things in this life.

When these young Noblemen visited Baltimore, they brought letters to my father from Mr. Bingham. They had been very well received in that place and had been shewn a good deal of attention by the inhabitants — When they left us, my father gave them a letter of credit to make use of in case they should fall short of funds in their journey. Having lost a horse in swimming Buffalo creek the Duke of Orleans drew upon my father for three hundred dollars, which, when I saw him in Philada he returned to me with many thanks for the assistance. —

I cannot help relating an anecdote of the Mess. D'Orleans that occurs to me on mentioning their departure from Balto. A French Abbé whom they had been acquainted with in France met them by accident at a table in

Balt° and was constantly with them during their stay — As they had come to America by permission from the Directory they thought it prudent to wear the national cockade and occasionally visit the French minister Adet. The night before they left Balt° they told my father that M^r Perrigny, the french Abbé, who was an aristocrat, expressed some fears lest they might be insulted in their route by the Virginian & Kentucky men, from the circumstance of their wearing this cockade; my father advised them by all means to continue them in their hats for two reasons, first because, should they be seen without it, there were many malicious people who would inform M^r Adet that they wore it only in Philad^a to keep up appearances and laid it aside when out of view. and secondly, that the Southern & Western people were more attached to the French than to any other nation, and that probably they would be more respected & pass more unmolested than without it. From these considerations they determined on following my father's advice, and when I met them again in Philad^a the *Cocarde Nationale* was mounted in their hats.

On the 29^th^ we spent the morning in visiting and went to dine at Lansdown. — Mr. Clymer drove Mr. Bingham & myself out in his Phaeton. The three princes dined with us and in the evening the usual sports on the lawn were resumed, and the party was a very pleasant & agreable one among people whom we should never have expected such perfect freedom and ease. —

The next day being Saturday we dined agreable to engagement with the Viscount de Noailles in company with some Spaniards of my acquaintance. — The conversation was kept up with a good deal of spirit & the afternoon passed with great good humour.

As we had taken our seats for the stage that was to leave town on Sunday morning for New York we set off about 10 o'clock, and arrived at New York the succeeding day about 4 o'Clock P.M. — Our ride lay through the pleasant little villages of Bristol on the Deleware, Trenton, Princeton, Brunswick, New Ark & Bergen. — At Princeton we visited the college and (one) of the students was very polite in shewing us the building. — When bed time came we found that we could not have a bed in the tavern where we put up at, but were obliged to lodge at a private house, which, fortunately for us, furnished every requisite in a far better manner than would have been the case had the tavern not been full.

The morning after my arrival I waited on Mr Low to whom I had letters from my father. — He is one of the first merchants in New York and lives in great style ; he had invited me to breakfast with him the preceding evening and I had the pleasure of seeing Mrs Low & her charming daughter Miss Fleming. — After breakfast Mr Sherlock & I waited upon the other gentlemen to whom we had letters and before noon we had engagements for all the time we should stay at New York. We visited the different principal places in the city & in the evening walked on the Battery, the grand public promenade of the ladies. The evening being cloudy & misty, not much company appeared, and we were disappointed in seeing many of the beauties with which this place abounds. —

The buildings in this city are very superb — The house appropriated for the Governor is a handsome edifice, fronting on Broadway (the principal street) and on the Southern & Western side there is a fine view of the Battery, the North river, the Narrows (where the ships enter from sea) and a number of islands laying at the mouths of the East and North rivers. These two rivers form New York island on which the city stands ; from which to the main land on the New York side there is a communication by means of a bridge. — The other side is opposite a point of Long Island and commences the sound called after that Island of 150 miles long,— but of this I shall say more when I come to that part of my journey as it is the way we mean to go to New Port in Rhode Island by. —

On Wednesday the 2d Augt, we amused ourselves with walking over the city, and dined with Mr Gracie, a merchant of respectability here. and President of an Insurance Compa.

We were to have visited Long Island on Thursday morning but the bad weather prevented us — on our return we propose riding about it, at which period I shall take notice of our excursion. —

At Mr. Low's we dined in company with several respectable gentlemen; we stayed supper and Mrs Low insisted on our joining a card party, at which we were politely unfortunate enough to lose a few dollars. —

Miss Fleming was very agreable this day & witty, but she possesses unfortunately a satirical turn in her observations, which tho' sometimes just, fall short of their force from the unpleasant manner in which they are delivered. The best people at times deserve censure but it is certainly not fair

to attack & expose their failings, particularly should their good qualities overbalance them.

We had promised Mr. Bayard to dine with him in the Country on Friday & had flattered ourselves with the expectation of being favored with fine weather, that we might enjoy the prospects on the North river from his place and in the ride, but, unluckily again for us, when the morning came, clouds still obscured the sky. — It was unpleasant walking in the city, on the battery and everywhere.

At 2 o'Clock we called on Mr. Bayard at his compting-house and he carried us in his carriage out to his seat. Mr LeRoy & Mr Bayard (his two partners) dined with us; also General Clarkson; Tho' we were prevented from seeing the improvements round the place & the Garden, which had a very luxuriant inviting appearance, we were so well entertained by our landlord & his other guests, that the time slipped away very charmingly, — His coach set us down at the Tontine at night, and we again found ourselves in the coffee-room of the house where the merchants & indeed every body almost assemble at night and noon to hear what is going, and see each other —

Saturday being the day we fixed on for our departure for Boston, we went down to the wharf. but found that the packet we engaged our passage in would not sail for some days. — We immediately sent our trunks on board of another vessel, which tho' not quite so elegant in her accommodations as the other, was nevertheless sufficiently good for our purpose. — Accordingly about 3 o'Clock P.M. we left the wharf with a fair wind and got through Hell Gate before night into the Sound. —

Hell Gate is a narrow passage which forms the entrance into Long Island Sound & separates it from East river. — It is a very difficult passage and extremely dangerous to go through when the wind & tide are not in favour of the vessel. — Many vessels are lost going through being thrown upon the rocks & ashore by the different currents formed by those rocks & the tide. —

During the late war, a British Frigate was cast away there, and when we passed, a wreck lay on shore.

During the night we had a charming run of near 70 miles, and in the morning found ourselves close under the shore of Long Island; at that place we could scarcely see across, as the breadth of the Sound was there about

20 miles. — As we proceeded on we found it narrowed, so that we could distinguish plainly houses on the Connecticut shore. —

This extensive inlet from the sea separates the largest & finest Island in the United States from the main land of Connecticut & part of Rhode Island. — After passing the Upper end of Long Island, we found ourselves among a parcel of islands, from which we entered into the Atlantic Ocean. — A heavy swell generally prevails a little to the starboard of Fisher's island, owing to a current that meets with the tide. This swell had a very grand and sublime appearance, but made almost every passenger on board sea-sick. I had the good fortune to escape by keeping the deck, but Mr. Sherlock was very sick indeed & on going below became worse. — Dinner was served just at this time, but the stomachs of the company were far from being in a condition to taste any of it. — I had a good appetite, ate heartily and could not help smiling to see many turn their languishing eyes towards my plate as if they wished to follow my Example, and yet the sight seemed to disgust them, making their sickness still more revolting. —

Early in the night we got sight of the Lighthouse which stands upon the island of Conanicut, and at 1 o'Clock in the morning we landed by moonlight on the wharf at New Port quite rejoiced at our favorable voyage and glad to have another opportunity to sleep in clean beds. —

Lloyd, Kunkel, Sherlock & myself paraded the streets without being able to find a house to receive us ; at last we succeeded & M^r Britain let us in, gave us chambers, and we slept as sound and as happy as if we were never to rise again. —

In the morning we called on M^rs Caton (a lady of our acquaintance in Balt^o who had visited Newport for her health along with her Brother, Sister & M^rs & Mr. Nicols.) — M^rs C. —— was at the window of the house she lodged at when we turned the corner, the instant she saw us, she flew down stairs and took us by the hand most cordially — She seemed happy to meet with any one she knew from Baltimore and asked us a thousand questions respecting it.—

While we were in the room M^r Barton (a merchant of Balt^o who has a summer residence at New Port) came in. — He was glad to see us and invited us along with all the Baltimore gentlemen home to dinner, where we spent a very agreable, sociable and jovial afternoon. —

In the evening we returned to accompany M^rs Caton to the play, (for it

seemed there was a small company performing here) which was performed over the market place. Mr Cooper & Mr Harwood of the New Theatres of Philad. & Balto happening to be here, at Mrs C's request took a part in the play of the evening, and astonished the audience of New Port with their great theatrical powers. Cooper played *Romeo* & Harwood shone in the farce of *Ways & Means*, in which he played *Sir David Dundee*.

The next day we hired a chaise and rode over the Beaches & The surf broke very handsomely, and we stopped to look at the grandeur of the scene. — A fog had risen while we were riding so that at first we could not extend our prospect over the country nor sea, but while we were gazing at the white foam the fog dissipated very rapidly and by degrees the waves began to appear at a distance and here & there on the distant surface of the ocean, a sail was moving which as the sun shone upon it, reflected a beautiful appearance.

From the beaches we took a circuit round and came into New Port on the other side of the Island. The ride was delightful and lay through the richest and best cultivated country I ever saw. — The fences were made of stone which had been cleared off of the land and intersected each other so frequently, that when we regarded a hillside from an opposite one, it appeared like a richly coloured map. — This is the true way of cultivating land; laying it out in small inclosures. they are in turn manured by the cattle put into them in the highest & best manner. — Having hired a stage to take us on to Providence, five of us set off early next morning, and got to Providence to dinner; after which we walked over the Town and along the wharves, by which lay many vessels. — Tho' this place & Newport are small, there are some of the richest & most extensive merchants in the United States residing in them, particularly Providence. Here lives Mr John Brown, a man who has ships in all quarters of the globe, who lives like a prince, and contributes to the support of a number of industrious citizens. —

There are a number of elegant houses in Providence, chiefly built of wood and painted in a neat, handsome manner. — We left Providence the succeeding morning, and after passing through Patucket, Attleborough, Dedham & Roxbury, arrived at Boston about 4 in the evening. — The day was charming and when we entered the town it had an elegant appearance. We passed a number of carriages, in which were young ladies going to the

country, and we were struck with the Beauty that seemed to prevail in New England. — Hardly one lady we saw could be called ugly. This prepossessed us much in favor of the Boston ladies, and predetermined us to think well of them even if we should find they did not come up to the specimens we had met with. —

As my father had recommended me to board with Mrs Archibald during my stay here (he having been much pleased with her house last year when he & my sister staid there) I directed the driver to set me down there, & luckily a room with 2 beds happened to be unoccupied, when Mr S. & myself took possession of it. Mr Lloyd & Kunckel took lodgings elsewhere, but met us by appointment and before dark we had visited the Mall, The Capitol, Beacon hill, & almost half the town.

Boston is a handsome town, filled with well built houses in general, and some very superb ones, though mostly of wood. — The streets are however bad ; being narrow, wretchedly paved and no side way of brick for foot passengers ; my feet were quite sore with traversing the round stones. The town is built like New York, irregular, but not near so compact. — I suppose it to be nearly about the size of Baltimore, perhaps something larger. —

On Friday the 10th I hired a hack (of which there are a great plenty, and some very handsome, both coaches and chariots) and rode to Cambridge, a delightful village about 4 miles from town, to deliver my letter for Mr Craigie who has a very handsome residence there, and was the place which General Washington chose for his head quarters, last war, when the army lay in the neighbourhood.

Cambridge is principally the seat of the University of that name, and of gentlemen's country houses. — It is divided from Boston by a long causeway & bridge of 1½ miles in length which it is extremely tiresome to cross from its length. — At night it is lighted up by about 80 lamps and looks very brilliant from the Mall.

At Night we went to the play and were tolerably amused but better pleased with the inside of the Theatre than anything else. The Galleries look very light having no pillars to support them, but appear suspended in the air. I think this Theatre much larger & handsomer than the one in Philadelphia. — There is another here built of brick in a very superb manner, but as it is a winter one, and we of course had not an opportunity of

seeing it, I cannot judge whether its internal appearance corresponds with what its outward one authorizes me to believe.

Saturday morning Sherlock & I hired a gig & made a circuit of about 10 miles into the country. We crossed Cambridge bridge and passed through that place, Watertown, Roxbury & Dorchester, from whence we returned to Roxbury and came home over the neck of land which joins Boston with the Main. — During our ride we saw almost all the principal seats in the neighbourhood & frequently had a distant view of the sea. —

After dinner we walked down to the Frigate & viewed all that was worth seeing there. From what we recollected we considered the one at Baltimore to be much better finished. From the Frigate, we passed over Charleston bridge into the little town of that name, visited Bunker's hill and made many grave reflections about the Monument of General Warren erected there.

The next day being Sunday, we went to the Protestant Church in this city and heard a sermon which did not come up to my ideas as a good one. We were pleased with the manner in which Dr. Parker read prayers, and were in hopes he would have preached, but we were disappointed by his assistant rising in his stead. —

On Monday Sherlock left me, having some engagements at home that required his presence. Lloyd also accompanied him being tired with his journey.

The weather here is very uncertain, in the middle of some days the heat is intense, and towards evening it becomes cool enough to change the clothes of the morning; 'Tis now the 14th of August and were I in Baltimore I should call the month November for it is the most unseasonable weather I ever saw. The wind from the North West whistles down the streets, while my dress is no avail against the chilliness of the blast. The people here don't seem to mind it, nor do I believe feel any bad effects from such changes; they call it charming pleasant weather, rise at five in the morning to plunge into the cold bath.

Last evening I spent at the play. — I found Mr & Mrs Harrison of Philad. there. — Mr Sears with whom I dined came also, and the party seemed pleased with the performances. — The house was tolerably full, and presented a fine display of handsome women. —

On Tuesday I went & dined by appointment at Mr Craigie's. I met

there a large company of ladies & gentlemen, of the first respectability here. — The day was passed very agreably. Some of the ladies sung and were followed by the gentlemen. — Mrs Craigie was by far the handsomest woman in the room, tho' accustomed daily to a great deal of company, she has the most modest diffident air I ever saw, at the same time a sensible pleasing woman. — Mr C. invited me to dine with him on Saturday & Mr Paine on Sunday, but as I intended going a little farther to the Eastward, I declined their polite invitations. —

Mr Craigie's house is a large and handsome one; the grounds about it laid out in a very good taste. — This place was chosen for the Commander in chief (General Washington) during the war when the army lay about Cambridge. —

Wednesday was the day appointed by the Citizens of Boston to give a public dinner to the present President, Mr Adams. — In the morning the different companies of the place paraded on the Mall and marched to the neck to receive the President, who was escorted by a troup of horse from his seat at Braintree (a few miles from town.) — At 9 o'Clock he got to Roxborough where he breakfasted with the Governor of the State, and from whence he was attended by all who chose to go out in carriages or on horseback. — About 2 o'Clock he got near the Senate house in State Street when he alighted & walked there preceded by several respectable officers & citizens & followed by a number of others. While he was in the Balcony of the Senate room, all the companies & citizens who came into town with him passed in review before him. The multitude seemed very much pleased with his appearance, and received him with great applause.

Mr Harrison had with great difficulty procured me a ticket for this dinner, & I went as was previously desired to the Senate Chamber which was crowded with Company. The president appeared very cheerful, conversed with several who were on each side of him, and always gave his hand to those who were presented to him. —

About four o'Clock we proceeded in Procession to Faneuil Hall where the dinner was prepared. — About 316 people sat down to dinner this day and were not the least crowded. —

The hall was decorated in a very handsome manner and enriched by some tapestry of the Gobelin manufacture which belonged I believe to the late Duke of Orleans. — It was very superb, and contributed not a little to

the Elegance of the scene. — The tables were furnished with every thing that one could wish for the season, with all kinds of liquors, and a company could not be found better disposed to enjoy the festival. —

After dinner a number of toasts were given from the Chair (Gen[l] Lincoln presided with the President on his right & the Governor on his left hand) full of Patriotic enthusiasm & sentiment, which were well received, some with great applause. I would go into a detail of them but the Public papers will give a much fuller and better account than it lies in my power to do in so confined a narrative as mine. —

The company broke up early and went to the Theatre; where the President also came. — A Stage box was fitted up with American flags for his reception & when he entered it Continued peals of applause burst from every quarter of the house. — He bowed & smiled. — During the performance he seemed very much diverted and stood a tedious play out very well. — At his departure he was again applauded & went home I dare say as satisfied as it was possible for a man to be who received such public & general marks of approbation for his conduct.

On Thursday afternoon, M[r] Hay, (a fellow boarder) & I took our seats in the Salem Stage and at Dark arrived at Salem. We had time to visit several places in this town, particularly the wharves, where we saw a number of fine vessels. —

This place carries on an extensive commerce & had lately (sent) out more East Indiamen than all the rest of the United States together. — The principal merchant here, M[r] Derby, has just built a most superb house, more like a palace than the dwelling of an American merchant. —

In our way to Salem we passed through a number of pretty little villages one of which, Lynn, is scarcely inhabited by any but shoemakers. — This little town supplies even the Southern States with women shoes for exportation. The women work also and we scarcely passed a house where the trade was not carried on. — A woman can make four pair a day & a man has been mentioned to me who could make double that quantity.

We left Salem about 7 the next morning in the Portsmouth Stage which left Philad[a] (?)[1] that day. As there was not room for us all, and I did not choose to be left behind, I agreed with M[r] Hay to ride on the coachman's

[1] Probably means Boston.

box with him alternately for 25 miles, when one of the passengers left us. — I did not expect to find the seat so agreable but after a little I preferred it to an inside one. After riding 45 miles through one of the pleasantest countries in the State, we got to Portsmouth in the evening and met with 2 gentlemen who had boarded with us at Mrs Archibald's waiting at the inn the stage stopped at, to shew us lodgings in the house they put up at. —

As I had omitted bringing any letters to some respectable person in Portsmouth, I felt rather awkward when I found from the arrangement of the stages, I should be obliged to remain here two days. — The gentlemen who came with me had several letters, by means of which they were always in company. — A Mr Boyd however hearing I had come along with Mr Hay politely invited me to dine with him on Sunday & to join a party on Saturday evening that were going to Piscataqua bridge, which is the only one of the kind in America and a surprizing work. — It's length is about 2200 feet, including a small island which it rests upon in the middle of the river. — From a small rock to this island a single arch of 240 feet is thrown over the deepest and most rapid part of the river. — It is handsomely executed and painted white. — The arch is not supported by the abutments but by braces which are opposed and support it from above. — While the company were viewing the work I ran about half a mile to the only place where I could get a tolerable view for a picture. — Then seated on a rock I made the sketch at the end of this book, which part I allotted for designs of such objects as struck me during my tour and which could be comprehended in a slight sketch.

About dusk it began to rain, and we were obliged to wait till it was over, when we rode back in our chaises to Portsmouth in a very dark night. — This bridge is distant from Ports. 6½ miles. —

On Sunday I dined with Mr Boyd; in the evening drank tea with Mrs Bowman (a lady lately married & very beautiful who was so polite as to ask me to visit her while I staid here. She was very agreable and kept up the spirits of the company with a great deal of gaiety.)

At 4 o'Clock on Monday afternoon I got into the Stage and returned to Boston by the way of Exeter & Haverhill. Both of which are very pretty little villages, particularly the latter which is situated very pleasantly on the Banks of the Merrimack. Across this river is thrown one of the new constructed bridges like that of Piscataqua, only this has 3 arches instead of one,

and the work which supports the whole is above instead of being just below the bridge. I had time enough before dinner to step to the water's edge and take a sketch of it. While I stood there, with my drawing book laid upon a pile of plank which happened to be convenient, and intent on my work, I did not observe the tide which rose very fast and on looking down perceived myself up to my ancles in the river. The water rose so gradually that I did not feel it and never suspected that it could have (been) the case.

The next day after leaving Portsmouth I got to Boston in the evening and took up my former lodgings at M^rs^ Archibald's.

During this little excursion I had passed thro' a number of pretty villages, and in most places a delightful country. The road by which I went lay through all the principal trading towns to the Eastward of Boston, and in a great part in sight of the sea. — The one by which I returned was made for the convenience of a number of principal country towns; of course I had a tolerable opportunity of judging of the country.

It is something remarkable that the people of New England in general have adopted a number of words in common conversation & which they interlard their discourse continually, that are not used in the same sense by the other part of America. At Portsmouth in New Hampshire particularly I remembered the following. — If I observed such a thing was handsome, they would answer *quite handsome*. If I asked the way or an opinion, the answer always was preceded by *I guess*, so & so. — A handsome man they call a *nice* man & I am frequently asked how long I mean to *tarry* in such a place, or if I made a *tarry* there. — These and some other expressions are common to a fault, and are used even by the best informed and educated people. — It frequently furnished matter for amusement among some of us travellers, and sometimes in company we would fall into the same fault from a satirical disposition. —

After staying two days in Boston (one of which I spent in accompanying M^r^ Ensile (son of the Marquis de Casa Ensile) a Spanish gentleman, through the town and country; in returning through Cambridge, I stopped at M^r^ Craigie's and presented M^r^ Ensile. We drank tea there and returned home in one of the darkest nights I ever experienced, narrowly escaping breaking our necks, as our gig was in danger of upsetting every instant.

On Friday at 10 o'Clock. I took leave of all at M^rs^ Archibald's and set out in the stage for New York. We slept the first night at Worcester and

got to Hartford on Saturday night after a very disagreable ride in point of weather. But our Party was one of the pleasantest I ever travelled with. — Among the rest was a Col[l] Talmidge a brave officer who distinguished himself during our war. — He occasionally recounted to us several private anecdotes respecting the army and General Washington whom he was very intimate with. & by whom he was much esteemed. —

Before I proceed any farther I must observe that the night before I left Boston, I spent part of the evening with M[r] & M[rs] Caton, M[r] & M[rs] Nicols, Gen[l] Ridgely & M[r] & M[rs] Mechen, who had just got to town from Newport. —I wished very much to stay a few days longer that I might enjoy their society. — M[r] Nicols in the name of the party gave me a letter to M[r] Dan'l Wadsworth of Hartford, son of Col[l] Wadsworth.

On Sunday morning I waited on M[r] W. who had just returned from New York having heard of his lady's indisposition. — This circumstance prevented him from having it in his power to shew me any civilities during this day which from the arrangement of the stages I was forced to spend at Hartford. —

The towns through which we have passed in Connecticut are in general very pretty ; Hartford is among the handsomest as it is the Capital as well as the largest town in the State.

New Haven is nearly the same size as Hartford but built in a much handsomer manner. Yale College (the principal institution of the kind in the State & perhaps in America) is placed in this town.

On Tuesday about noon we drove into New York and I immediately went to my former lodging house (the Tontine coffee house.)

I waited on a number of friends and met with others, among the rest M[r] & Miss Wheeler from Norfolk. — I was invited to dine with them at M[r] Gracie's, but being engaged to M[r] Moses I was obliged to decline the invitation. However I went there in the evening and accompanied Miss W. to the Theatre, where we met with two Charleston ladies the Miss Gibbs to whom Miss W. presented me. Observing Miss Fleming and M[r] Low in the Stage box, I begged permission from Miss W. to go and speak to them, but they were so agreable that after spending some time with them I was returning when I observed that Miss W. & the other ladies had left the house being tired with the performance. This circumstance distressed me a good

deal and I resolved to wait on her the next morning and endeavor to make my peace.

Accordingly I went with a face pretty much adapted to such an errand, and fortunately instead of my standing in need of pardon, she began to excuse her leaving the Theatre before I returned. This matter being then settled to my satisfaction, I chatted away with Miss W. & the Miss Gibbs for about an hour when I left them. —

I remained in New York for about a week dining every day in company. — At Mr Low's I was quite at home & I scarcely missed a morning without going there to see Miss Fleming. We played chess together and frequently walked on the Battery & elsewhere. She is a very charming girl and possessed of an excellent understanding.

On Monday evening I had the pleasure of waiting on Miss Fleming & Mr Low to the Theatre, which was rendered much more agreable to me than if I had been with this party. — The day following I dined with Mr Low in company with a large party of strangers. — Miss Wheeler and the Miss Gibbs were among the number. — In the evening we had dancing music &c. — Miss F. honored me with her hand and upon the whole I never saw a pleasanter company. We stayed supper during which a number of smart sallies escaped the ladies, and broke up about 10 o'Clock when Wallace & I waited on the Miss Gibbs & Miss Wheeler home.

On Thursday morning I had determined to set out, having with Mr Wheeler & others taken the stage that departed at 3 o'Clock. As I had a letter for Miss Patterson (daughter of Judge P.) of Brunswick from Miss Fleming & knowing that the stage would only breakfast there, I determined to take a seat as far as that place in a stage that left town some hours earlier, by which means I got to Brunswick about sundown & Wallace (who was kind enough to accompany me so far on Horseback) went with me to the Judge's. — We found Miss P. all that was expected, lovely indeed, and the handsomest girl I have seen since my departure from home. The Judge made us stay supper and entertained us with several anecdotes of the celebrated Polish General Kosciusko, who is now in town and lives with a brother in law of the Judge. — Miss Patterson played on the piano for me and so like Miss Fleming in her voice, manner & dress that for several moments I thought myself at New York. —

In the morning I met with the other stage and took my seat with our

party. — Wallace mounted his horse and set off for New York where he was engaged to dine with the Miss Gibbs. — The distance from New York to Brunswick is 36 miles!

Nothing material occurred during our journey; we passed through the same places I had seen on going, but they were somewhat altered in one respect, for the fever which raged at Philad had forced the inhabitants to fly and we met them in all directions. — Trenton, Bristol, and Burlington are full of them; and when we got to Frankfort, where we meant to stay all night, instead of going into the city we could not get a single bed. — Fortunately for us, while we were talking with a landlady, a Spanish Gentleman, Mr La Motte, who knew Miss W. & myself insisted on giving up (his) bed for her use, and prevailed upon the gentlemen who staid at the inn to admit me among them. —

The next day after breakfast I went & saw Mr Alvarez, who told me he expected the Viscount de Noailles to dinner and invited me to dine with him. This I readily agreed to, and about 2 o'Clock up came the Visct. he was very glad to see me & undertook to get me lodgings somewhere about Gray's Ferry, in the neighbourhood of Mr. Bingham's where I wished frequently to be. This he promised to do, and left us early being obliged to go as far as Bristol & return that evening. He promised to call the next morning & take me with him to my lodgings.

When he left us, I took a walk across the country to Mr Lewis', where I spent an agreable afternoon Mr Lewis pressed me very much to stay with them, but I declined it not choosing to add to the inconvenience of a private family particularly when I knew it was a very large one. —

Mr Lewis' son in law Mr Dawson drove me to Frankfort at night in his chaise and on going into my lodgings met with Mr Yzuardi, a Spanish gentleman with whom we were particularly connected. The next morning I amused myself with walking about Frankford till the Viscount should appear to take me to Lansdowne, which he did about 2 o'Clock when he came in his curricle and drove me in about an hour & ¼. — I requested he would not expose me to any danger by taking me into the city, but to go through the outskirts, which was the nearest way. — We had hardly turned into the first street when we overtook a coffin, going to the Potters' field: — I made a great many wry faces at it, till we had got clear which was scarcely done when we found ourselves within 100 yards of the Potters' field, where

they were at that moment engaged in interring a corpse. — This alarmed me again and we drove as fast as we could past, entered about the head of Market Street, and crossed the ferry. — Soon after we arrived at Lansdown and I experienced the most welcome reception from Mr Bingham's family, I had met with since my absence.

A great deal of company came out to dinner to-day, among which were the three princes; We spent a charming afternoon and at night Mr Bingham would not permit me to leave his house but insisted on my staying there all the time I meant to spend near Philad[a].

I remained here about a week, passing my time in the most agreable manner. — Company were continually visiting Lansdowne, & added to its own made a most sociable society. During the day I either amused myself with hunting or retired to the Library where Stuart the painter was engaged in painting the whole family. In the evening we played at the French game of the Lottery, in which we were occasionally joined by the Princes & viscount who staid after night. — Our party was increased by the arrival of Mr. Alexander Baring (son of Sir Francis Baring) whom Mr. Bingham invited to stay in the family. He is an extraordinary young man, of great mercantile talents & possessed of much information. — Tho' a young man of about 25, he is respected by all the old characters who know him; and was so much esteemed by the House of Hope & Co. of Amsterdam. that after being some time in their compting-house, he was received into their firm, and at the time the French entered Holland, he staid behind & sent near 2 millions of property to England. — He is now in America on the business of that house and lately made a purchase from Mr B. of one half his lands in the province of Maine, for which he paid him 100.000 guineas.

One day the family of the British Minister, Mr Liston, dined at Lansdowne; in his suite were Mr Thornton, Mr Brown & Lord Henry Stuart, all secretaries & assistants. There were also Mr & Mrs ———, relatives of Mr Liston. The day passed as usual; very agreable and the company did not sit long at table, particularly the young people who assembled in the portico and on the Lawn.

Having at last concluded on returning home, I wrote a note to the Viscount to secure a place for me in the mail Stage to take me up at Gray's ferry, whither Mr Bingham sent me in his carriage. I left this charming

family with regret, and fully sensible of the politeness, attention & kindness they shew'd me during my short residence with them.

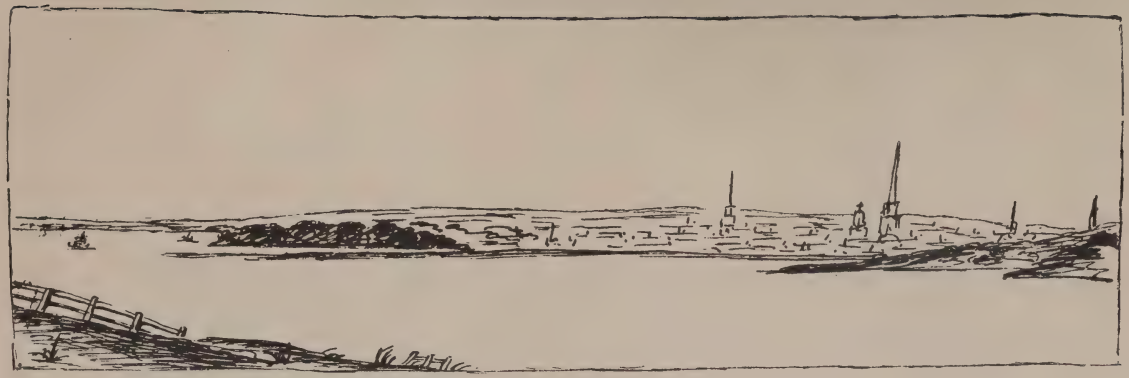
The viscount came out to Gray's and breakfasted with me. — Soon after the stage appeared, and I parted with him with much concern. His politeness to me was very great during the unfortunate period of the sickness, and had it not been for him, I should have found much difficulty in avoiding Philad[a].

After a ride of a day & a half I got home ; the family were still in the country, and an appearance of the Yellow fever at Baltimore prevented them from coming to town. My father happening to be at church this day (Sunday) afforded me a seat in the gig which set me down at Beech Hill where I had the long-promised pleasure of meeting with my Mother Sisters & Brother in excellent health & spirits. —

The end I contemplated on setting out on this tour has been fully answered. Notwithstanding all the pleasure, attentions & civilities I received on the expedition, the satisfaction at being again at home, among those whose kindness was unfeigned & grateful, was superior to all I enjoyed during my absence. and I am convinced the more a man wanders about the world, the more he will regret those social scenes which can only be enjoyed by him in the bosom of his own family.

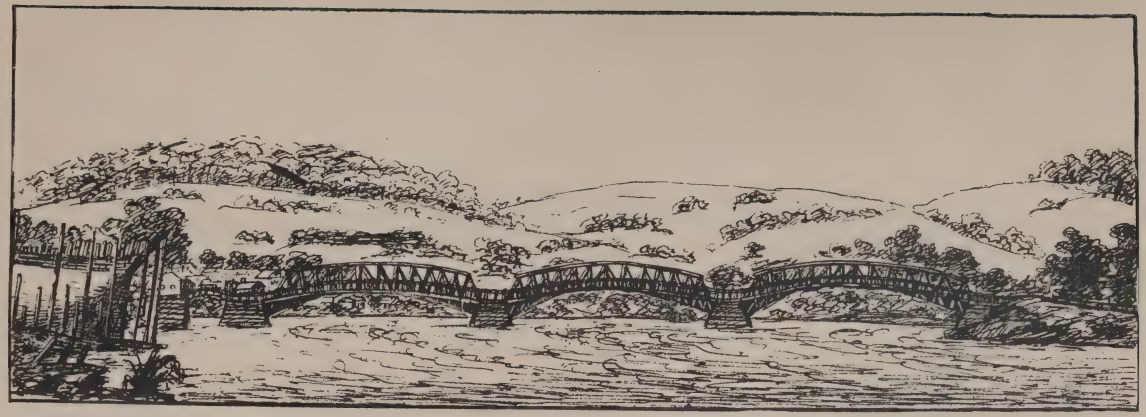
Lansdowne.

View of the Bridge at Frankfort (Pennsylvania).



View of New York taken on tne road to Utrecht baths,
that leads through the narrows.

View of Broadway (New York) from the Battery.



View of the Bridge at Haverhill, over the Merrimack.

View of the bridge over the Piscataqua, about 6 1-2 miles from Portsmouth (New Hampshire).
Total length, 2200 feet including the island. The arch, 243 feet.

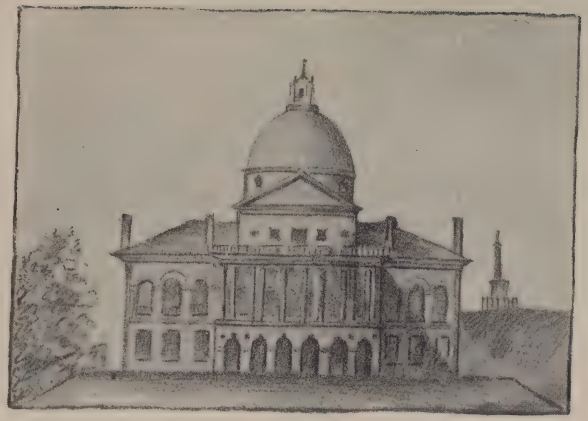
View of Mr. Derby's house at Salem.

View of Boston from the West End of the Bridge.

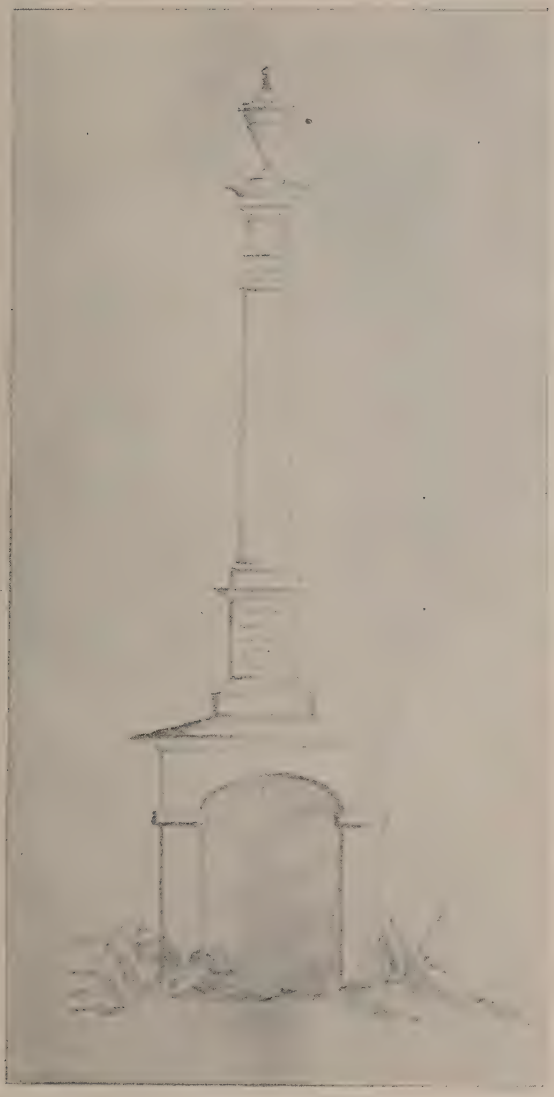
View of Charleston (Massachusetts) from the West end of Boston bridge.

View of Roxbury, taken from the Mall.

View of the Mall at Boston from the State House.



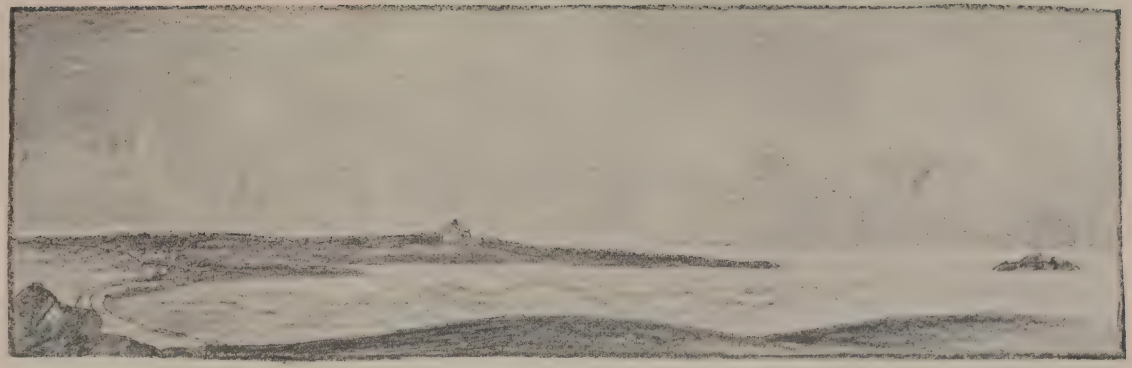
View of the Statehouse at Boston, taken from the Mall.



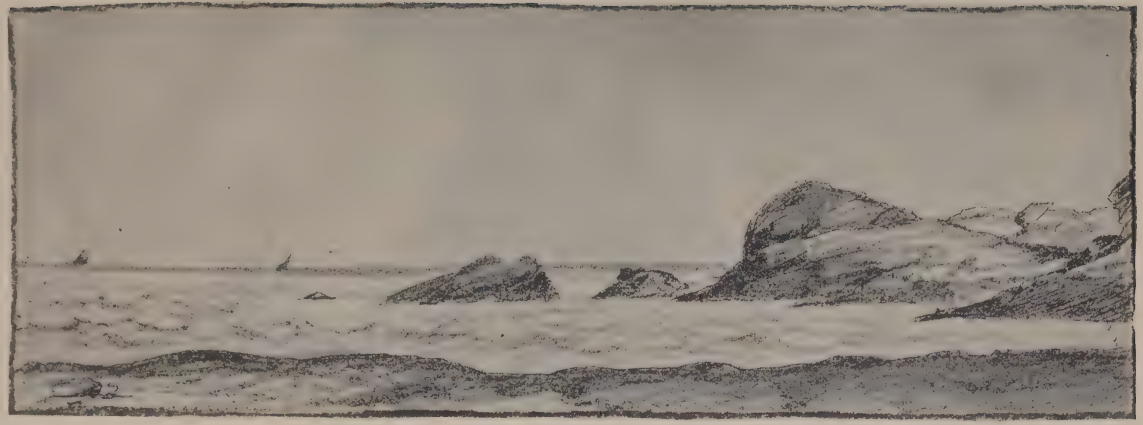
Monument erected on Bunker's Hill to the memory of General Warren.

View of Boston from Dorchester heights.

View of Newport in Rhode Island & the Sea taken from
a hill about 2 miles back of the town.

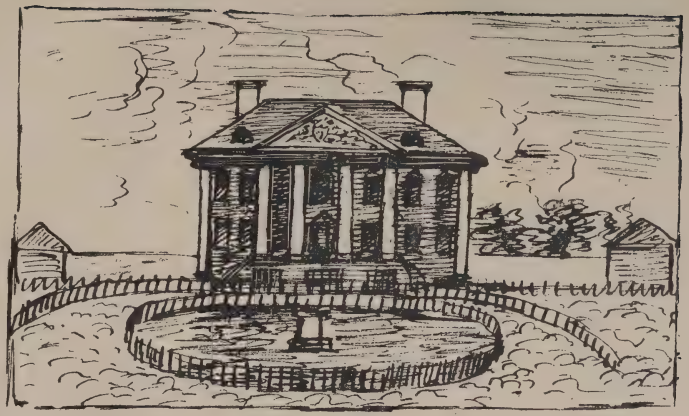


View of the Sea from the second Beach near Newport.



R. G. Jr. Fecit.

View of the Sea & Beach from the hanging rocks about a mile from New Port in R. Island.



View of the Governors house at New York.

View of the Narrows from the belfry of Christ Church.

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